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General

Portugal is located in SW Europe, bordering the North Atlantic Ocean, W of Spain.

The climate is marine temperate being cool and rainy in the N, and warmer and drier in the S.

The terrain is mountainous N of Tagus, with rolling plains in the S.

Buoyage System

The IALA Buoyage System (Region A) is in effect. See Chart No. 1 for further IALA Buoyage System information.

Currency

The official unit of currency is the escudo, consisting of 100 centavos.

Firing Areas

Espinho Firing Danger Zone.—An area bounded by lines joining:

- 41°00'10.9"N, 8°40'47.8"W.

- 40°59'11.2"N, 8°38'36.9"W.
- 40°59'06.0"N, 8°38'37.7"W.
- 40°58'54.9"N, 8°41'07.3"W.

Figuera da Foz Firing Danger Zone.—An area bounded as follows:

- On the N—latitude 40°06.8'N.
- On the W—longitude 8°54.5'W.
- On the S—latitude 40°05.3'N.
- On the E—by the coastline.

Government

Portugal is a republic. The capital is Lisbon.

The Azores, an archipelago in the North Atlantic Ocean, constitutes an autonomous region of Portugal. The principal islands of the group are Flores, Corvo, Terceira, Sao Jorge, Pico, Faial, Graciosa, Sao Miguel, and Santa Maria.

Madeira and Porto Santo, two inhabited islands, form an autonomous region of Portugal. They lie, along with two groups of barren islets, in the North Atlantic Ocean to the SE of the Azores.

The Cape Verde Islands lie in the North Atlantic Ocean to the W of Senegal. The principal islands of the group are Boa Vista, Brava, Fogo, Maio, Sal, Santa Luzia, Santo Antao, Sao Tiago, and Sao Vicente. The group, a former province of Portugal, gained independence in 1975 and is a republic. The capital is Praia on Sao Tiago.

Holidays

The following holidays are observed:

Jan. 1, New Year's Day; Shrove Tuesday; Good Friday; April 25, Revolution Day; May 1, Workers Day; June 10, Corpus Christi; Aug. 15, Assumption Day; Oct. 5, Proclamation of the Republic; Nov. 1, All Saints' Day; Dec. 1, Independence of Portugal; Dec. 8, Immaculate Conception; Dec. 24, Christmas Eve; and Dec. 25, Christmas Day.

Industries

The main industries are textiles and footwear, wood pulp, paper, metal working, oil refining, chemicals, fish canning, wine, and tourism.

Languages

Portuguese is the official language.

Pilotage

Pilotage is compulsory at nearly all Portuguese ports. There is usually a properly organized pilot service at the larger ports and licensed pilots at the smaller ones.

The pilot stations at Lisboa and Setubal are equipped with radio; the pilot vessel at Lisboa is equipped with a telephone.

Pilot vessels do not generally cruise off the entrances to ports. At the larger ports communication with the pilots is usually established by radio either through the port authority or direct. At the smaller ports ships should approach the harbor mouth making the usual signal for a ship requiring a pilot.

Signals

Several signal stations with which vessels can communicate by International Code stand along the Portuguese coast.

The International Storm Warning Signals are in use in Portugal.

Along the S coast of Algarve, a black cylinder (day signal) or a green light (night signal) is shown when wave heights of 2m or more are expected from the SE.

Submarine Operating Areas**Submarines**

Portuguese submarines may be met on the surface at night between Cabo da Roca and Cabo de Sines; they frequently exercise in the SW approach to Rio Tejo, and S of Ilha da Sao Miguel in the Azores.

Time Zone

The Time Zone description is ALPHA (-1).

U.S. Embassy

The U.S. Embassy is situated at Avenida das Forcas Armadas, 1600 Lisbon.

The mailing address is PSC 83, APO AE 09762.